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**Sixty-eighth session**  
Agenda item 60

## **Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples**

### **Report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)**

*Rapporteur:* Mr. Michal **Komada** (Slovakia)

#### **I. Introduction**

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 20 September 2013, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-eighth session the item entitled “Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples” and to allocate it to the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee).

2. At its 2nd meeting, on 3 October 2013, the Fourth Committee decided to hold a general debate on decolonization items (agenda items 56 to 60). The general debate on those items was held at the 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th meetings, on 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 14 October (see [A/C.4/68/SR.3-8](#)). The Committee took action on item 60 at its 8th and 14th meetings, on 14 and 25 October (see [A/C.4/68/SR.8](#) and [SR.14](#)).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Relevant chapters of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples ([A/68/23](#), chaps. VIII, IX, X, XI and XIII);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the question of Western Sahara ([A/68/330](#));

(c) Letter dated 10 October 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Spain to the United Nations addressed to the Chair of the Fourth Committee ([A/C.4/68/7](#)).



4. At the 3rd meeting, on 7 October, the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic, in his capacity as Rapporteur of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, introduced the report of the Special Committee. At the same meeting, the representative of Cuba, in his capacity as Acting Chair of the Special Committee, made a statement in which he gave an account of the activities of the Special Committee during 2013 (see [A/C.4/68/SR.3](#)).

5. At the same meeting, the Fourth Committee granted requests for hearings to the petitioners listed in documents [A/C.4/68/2](#), [A/C.4/68/3](#), [A/C.4/68/4](#), [A/C.4/68/5](#) and [A/C.4/68/6](#), in connection with its consideration of the item.

6. At its 4th meeting, on 8 October, on the basis of a decision taken at the 3rd meeting, the Committee heard two petitioners on the question of French Polynesia (see [A/C.4/68/SR.4](#) and [A/C.4/68/2/Rev.1](#)).

7. At the same meeting, on the basis of a decision taken at the 3rd meeting, the Committee heard a petitioner on the question of Guam (see [A/C.4/68/SR.4](#) and [A/C.4/68/4/Rev.1](#)).

8. Also at the same meeting, on the basis of a decision taken at the 3rd meeting, the Committee heard 34 petitioners on the question of Western Sahara (see [A/C.4/68/SR.4](#) and [A/C.4/68/6/Rev.1](#)).

9. At its 5th meeting, on 9 October, on the basis of a decision taken at the 3rd meeting, the Committee heard a statement on the question of Gibraltar by the Chief Minister of Gibraltar, Mr. Fabian Picardo (see [A/C.4/68/SR.5](#)).

10. At the same meeting, on the basis of a decision taken at the 3rd meeting, the Committee heard a petitioner on the question of Gibraltar (see [A/C.4/68/SR.5](#) and [A/C.4/68/3/Rev.1](#)).

11. Also at the same meeting, on the basis of a decision taken at the 3rd meeting, the Committee heard two petitioners on the question of New Caledonia (see [A/C.4/68/SR.5](#) and [A/C.4/68/5/Rev.1](#)).

12. At the same meeting, on the basis of a decision taken at the 3rd meeting, the Committee heard 27 petitioners on the question of Western Sahara (see [A/C.4/68/SR.5](#) and [A/C.4/68/6/Rev.1](#)).

13. At its 6th meeting, on 10 October, the Committee heard 10 petitioners on the question of Western Sahara (see [A/C.4/68/SR.6](#) and [A/C.4/68/6/Rev.1](#)).

## **II. Consideration of proposals**

14. At its 8th meeting, on 14 October, the Committee was informed that the draft resolutions submitted under item 60 had no programme budget implications.

### **A. Question of Western Sahara**

15. At its 8th meeting, on 14 October, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Question of Western Sahara" ([A/C.4/68/L.5](#)), submitted by the Chair of the Committee.

16. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.4/68/L.5](#) without a vote (see para. 26, draft resolution I).

## **B. Question of New Caledonia**

17. At its 8th meeting, on 14 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution IV, entitled “Question of New Caledonia”, contained in chapter XIII of the report of the Special Committee ([A/68/23](#)), without a vote (see para. 26, draft resolution II).

## **C. Question of French Polynesia**

18. At its 8th meeting, on 14 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution V, entitled “Question of French Polynesia”, contained in chapter XIII of the report of the Special Committee ([A/68/23](#)), without a vote (see para. 26, draft resolution III).

## **D. Question of Tokelau**

19. At its 8th meeting, on 14 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution VI, entitled “Question of Tokelau”, contained in chapter XIII of the report of the Special Committee ([A/68/23](#)), without a vote (see para. 26, draft resolution IV).

## **E. Questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, Saint Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands**

20. At its 8th meeting, on 14 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution VII, entitled “Questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, Saint Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands”, contained in chapter XIII of the report of the Special Committee ([A/68/23](#)), without a vote (see para. 26, draft resolution V).

## **F. Dissemination of information on decolonization**

21. At its 8th meeting, on 14 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution VIII, entitled “Dissemination of information on decolonization”, contained in chapter XIII of the report of the Special Committee ([A/68/23](#)), by a recorded vote of 156 to 3 (see para. 26, draft resolution VI). The voting was as follows:<sup>1</sup>

*In favour:*

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia

<sup>1</sup> The delegations of Saudi Arabia and Uzbekistan subsequently indicated that, had they been present, they would have voted in favour.

and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

*Against:*

Israel, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

*Abstaining:*

None.

## **G. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples**

22. At its 8th meeting, on 14 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution IX, entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples", contained in chapter XIII of the report of the Special Committee (A/68/23), by a recorded vote of 158 to 3 (see para. 26, draft resolution VII). The voting was as follows:<sup>2</sup>

*In favour:*

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic

<sup>2</sup> The delegations of Saudi Arabia and Uzbekistan subsequently indicated that, had they been present, they would have voted in favour.

Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

*Against:*

Israel, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

*Abstaining:*

None.

## **H. Question of Gibraltar**

23. At its 14th meeting, on 25 October, the Committee had before it a draft decision entitled "Question of Gibraltar" (A/C.4/68/L.6), submitted by the Chair.

24. At the same meeting, the Fourth Committee was informed that the draft decision had no programme budget implications.

25. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft decision A/C.4/68/L.6 without a vote (see para. 27).

### III. Recommendations of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

26. The Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

#### Draft resolution I Question of Western Sahara

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered in depth* the question of Western Sahara,

*Reaffirming* the inalienable right of all peoples to self-determination and independence, in accordance with the principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

*Recognizing* that all available options for self-determination of the Territories are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people concerned and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

*Recalling* its resolution [67/129](#) of 18 December 2012,

*Recalling also* all resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council on the question of Western Sahara,

*Recalling further* Security Council resolutions [658 \(1990\)](#) of 27 June 1990, [690 \(1991\)](#) of 29 April 1991, [1359 \(2001\)](#) of 29 June 2001, [1429 \(2002\)](#) of 30 July 2002, [1495 \(2003\)](#) of 31 July 2003, [1541 \(2004\)](#) of 29 April 2004, [1570 \(2004\)](#) of 28 October 2004, [1598 \(2005\)](#) of 28 April 2005, [1634 \(2005\)](#) of 28 October 2005, [1675 \(2006\)](#) of 28 April 2006 and [1720 \(2006\)](#) of 31 October 2006,

*Underlining* the adoption of Security Council resolutions [1754 \(2007\)](#) on 30 April 2007, [1783 \(2007\)](#) on 31 October 2007, [1813 \(2008\)](#) on 30 April 2008, [1871 \(2009\)](#) on 30 April 2009, [1920 \(2010\)](#) on 30 April 2010, [1979 \(2011\)](#) on 27 April 2011, [2044 \(2012\)](#) on 24 April 2012 and [2099 \(2013\)](#) on 25 April 2013,

*Expressing its satisfaction* that the parties met on 18 and 19 June 2007, on 10 and 11 August 2007, from 7 to 9 January 2008 and from 16 to 18 March 2008 under the auspices of the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General for Western Sahara and in the presence of the neighbouring countries and that they have agreed to continue the negotiations,

*Also expressing its satisfaction* at the holding of nine informal meetings convened by the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General on 9 and 10 August 2009 in Dürnstein, Austria, on 10 and 11 February 2010 in Westchester County, New York, United States of America, from 7 to 10 November 2010, from 16 to 18 December 2010 and from 21 to 23 January 2011, all on Long Island, New York, from 7 to 9 March 2011 in Mellieha, Malta, from 5 to 7 June 2011 and from 19 to

21 July 2011, both on Long Island, and from 11 to 13 March 2012 in Manhasset, New York, to prepare for the fifth round of negotiations,

*Calling upon* all the parties and the States of the region to cooperate fully with the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy and with each other,

*Reaffirming* the responsibility of the United Nations towards the people of Western Sahara,

*Welcoming*, in this regard, the efforts of the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy in search of a mutually acceptable political solution to the dispute, which will provide for the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara,

*Having examined* the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2013,<sup>1</sup>

*Having also examined* the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>2</sup>

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>2</sup>
2. *Supports* the process of negotiations initiated by Security Council resolution 1754 (2007) and further sustained by Council resolutions 1783 (2007), 1813 (2008), 1871 (2009), 1920 (2010), 1979 (2011), 2044 (2012) and 2099 (2013), with a view to achieving a just, lasting and mutually acceptable political solution, which will provide for the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara, and commends the efforts undertaken by the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy for Western Sahara in this respect;
3. *Welcomes* the commitment of the parties to continue to show political will and work in an atmosphere propitious for dialogue, in order to enter into a more intensive phase of negotiations, in good faith and without preconditions, noting efforts and developments since 2006, thus ensuring implementation of Security Council resolutions 1754 (2007), 1783 (2007), 1813 (2008), 1871 (2009), 1920 (2010), 1979 (2011), 2044 (2012) and 2099 (2013) and the success of negotiations;
4. *Also welcomes* the ongoing negotiations between the parties held on 18 and 19 June 2007, on 10 and 11 August 2007, from 7 to 9 January 2008 and from 16 to 18 March 2008 in the presence of the neighbouring countries and under the auspices of the United Nations;
5. *Calls upon* the parties to cooperate with the International Committee of the Red Cross, and calls upon them to abide by their obligations under international humanitarian law;
6. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to consider the situation in Western Sahara and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session;
7. *Invites* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

<sup>1</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/68/23)*, chap. VIII.

<sup>2</sup> A/68/330.

## Draft resolution II Question of New Caledonia

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the question of New Caledonia,

*Having examined* the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2013 relating to New Caledonia,<sup>1</sup>

*Reaffirming* the right of peoples to self-determination as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

*Recalling* its resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960,

*Noting* the importance of the positive measures being pursued in New Caledonia by the French authorities, in cooperation with all sectors of the population, to promote political, economic and social development in the Territory, including measures in the area of environmental protection and action with respect to drug abuse and trafficking, in order to provide a framework for its peaceful progress to self-determination,

*Noting also,* in this context, the importance of equitable economic and social development, as well as continued dialogue among the parties involved in New Caledonia in the preparation of the act of self-determination of New Caledonia,

*Recalling* the report of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples on the situation of Kanak people in New Caledonia, submitted to the Human Rights Council at its eighteenth session, held from 12 to 30 September and on 21 October 2011,<sup>2</sup> following his visit to the Territory in February 2011,

*Noting with satisfaction* the intensification of contacts between New Caledonia and neighbouring countries of the South Pacific region,

*Recalling,* in this regard, the conclusions of the eighteenth Melanesian Spearhead Group Leaders Summit, held in Suva on 31 March 2011, in particular the recommendations for the annual monitoring and assessment of the Nouméa Accord,<sup>3</sup>

*Welcoming* the exchange of letters between the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat and the Melanesian Spearhead Group secretariat on the sharing of information on New Caledonia,

1. *Invites* all the parties involved to continue promoting a framework for the peaceful progress of the Territory towards an act of self-determination in which all options are open and which would safeguard the rights of all sectors of the population, according to the letter and the spirit of the Nouméa Accord,<sup>3</sup> which is based on the principle that it is for the populations of New Caledonia to choose how to control their destiny;

<sup>1</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/68/23), chap. IX.*

<sup>2</sup> A/HRC/18/35/Add.6, annex.

<sup>3</sup> A/AC.109/2114, annex.



2. *Urges* all the parties involved, in the interest of all the people of New Caledonia, to maintain, within the framework of the Nouméa Accord, their dialogue in a spirit of harmony, and in this context welcomes again the unanimous agreement, reached in Paris on 8 December 2008, on the transfer of powers to New Caledonia in 2009;

3. *Notes* that, at its tenth meeting, held on 6 December 2012, the Committee of Signatories of the Nouméa Accord approved the programme of work for 2013 of the steering committee on the institutional future of New Caledonia, which covered sovereign powers and the legal framework for the final phase of the Nouméa Accord, and requested the mission responsible for considering the institutional future of New Caledonia to create model simulations of the various major hypotheses for the institutional future of New Caledonia and to map the exercise of sovereign powers according to the major options that could be envisaged depending on the outcome of the referendum held pursuant to the Nouméa Accord;

4. *Also notes* that, at the tenth meeting of the Committee of Signatories of the Nouméa Accord, participants expressed the view that greater support from the administering Power was needed, especially in areas that were both essential and highly technical, and that, to that end, an interministerial standing committee was established;

5. *Further notes* that, at its tenth meeting, the Committee of Signatories of the Nouméa Accord, *inter alia*:

(a) Decided to establish a working group within the steering committee to assess progress under the Nouméa Accord, in order to discuss ways to reconcile realignment among provinces, economic development, infrastructure levels and geographical distribution of the population, and that the outcome of the deliberations of the working group would be presented in September 2013;

(b) Welcomed the conclusion of the analysis and discussion relating to the development of a strategic framework for the nickel industry during the meeting of the industrial strategic committee held on 21 November 2012;

(c) Noted the concern expressed regarding security problems in the Territory, and took note of the pledge made by the administering Power to focus on ensuring an adequate presence of public security forces, strengthening the recruitment of New Caledonians and supporting initiatives by the institutions of the Territory relating to crime prevention and social cohesion;

(d) Urged all stakeholders to implement the recommendations made in the assessment report on the “Cadres for the Future” programme, with a view to redressing the geographical imbalance and implementing a strategic shift designed to ensure training to fill the posts created as a result of the transfer of powers, as well as senior posts in the private sector;

6. *Takes note* of the decision to present and implement, in 2013, concrete measures to ensure significant progress in the representation of New Caledonians, especially Kanaks, in the performance of the sovereign functions of the State civil service;

7. *Also takes note* of the information presented to the Caribbean regional seminar, held in Quito from 28 to 30 May 2013, to the effect that preparations for the referendum on self-determination to be held between 2014 and 2018, namely,

the completion and review of the electoral rolls constituting the special electorates, were currently under way;

8. *Notes*, in this regard, the concern expressed by members of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples participating in the 2013 Caribbean regional seminar regarding the problems recently encountered in the electoral review process;

9. *Reaffirms* its resolution [67/125](#) of 18 December 2012, in which, *inter alia*, the General Assembly reaffirmed that, in the absence of a decision by the Assembly itself that a Non-Self-Governing Territory has attained a full measure of self-government in terms of Chapter XI of the Charter of the United Nations, the administering Power concerned should continue to transmit information under Article 73 *e* of the Charter with respect to that Territory;

10. *Notes* the continuing concerns expressed by the Kanak people regarding their underrepresentation in governmental and social structures, incessant migratory flows and the impact of mining on the environment;

11. *Recalls* the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples on the situation of Kanak people in New Caledonia,<sup>2</sup> made in the light of relevant international standards, to assist with ongoing efforts to advance the rights of the Kanak people in the context of the implementation of the Nouméa Accord and the United Nations-supported decolonization process;

12. *Notes* the financial assistance rendered by the Government of France to the Territory in such areas as health, education, payment of public-service salaries and funding of development schemes;

13. *Also notes* the positive initiatives aimed at protecting the natural environment of New Caledonia, including the “Zonéco” operation designed to map and evaluate marine resources within the economic zone of New Caledonia;

14. *Welcomes* the cooperation among Australia, France and New Zealand in terms of surveillance of fishing zones, in accordance with the wishes expressed by France during successive France-Oceania Summits;

15. *Recalls* the relevant provisions of the Nouméa Accord to the effect that New Caledonia may become a member or associate member of certain international organizations, and notes the continuing strengthening of ties between New Caledonia and both the European Union and the European Development Fund;

16. *Also recalls* the second visit to New Caledonia, conducted from 13 to 18 August 2012, by the Melanesian Spearhead Group high-level ministerial mission;

17. *Welcomes* the decision of the Melanesian Spearhead Group to appoint the Front de libération nationale kanak socialiste as its next Chair and the opening, in February 2013, of the Front de libération nationale kanak socialiste unit at the headquarters of the Group secretariat in Port Vila;

18. *Acknowledges* the contribution of the Jean-Marie Tjibaou Cultural Centre to the protection of the indigenous Kanak culture of New Caledonia;

19. *Welcomes* the cooperative attitude of other States and Territories in the region towards New Caledonia, its economic and political aspirations and its increasing participation in regional and international affairs;

20. *Also welcomes* the appointment, in April 2012, of the first delegate for New Caledonia at the Embassy of France in New Zealand, in accordance with the convention, signed on 26 January 2012, relating to the hosting of New Caledonian delegates in the French diplomatic and consular missions in the Pacific region;

21. *Further welcomes* the actions taken by the administering Power to continue to transmit to the Secretary-General information as required under Article 73 *e* of the Charter;

22. *Notes* the agreement between the signatories to the Nouméa Accord that the progress made in the emancipation process shall be brought to the attention of the United Nations;

23. *Decides* to keep under continuous review the process unfolding in New Caledonia as a result of the signing of the Nouméa Accord;

24. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue the examination of the question of the Non-Self-Governing Territory of New Caledonia and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session.

### Draft resolution III Question of French Polynesia

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the question of French Polynesia,

*Having examined* the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2013 relating to French Polynesia,<sup>1</sup>

*Reaffirming* the right of peoples to self-determination as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and in accordance with all relevant resolutions, including its resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960,

*Recalling* its resolution 67/265 of 17 May 2013, entitled “Self-determination of French Polynesia”, in which the General Assembly affirmed the inalienable right of the people of French Polynesia to self-determination and independence in accordance with Chapter XI of the Charter and its resolution 1514 (XV), recognized that French Polynesia remains a Non-Self-Governing Territory within the meaning of the Charter and declared that an obligation exists under Article 73 *e* of the Charter on the part of the Government of France, as the administering Power of the Territory, to transmit information on French Polynesia,

*Expressing concern* that 53 years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,<sup>2</sup> there still remain a number of Non-Self-Governing Territories,

*Recognizing* that all available options for self-determination of the Territories are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned, on a case-by-case basis and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in resolutions 1514 (XV), 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions of the Assembly,

*Recognizing also* that the specific characteristics and the aspirations of the peoples of the Territories require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options for self-determination, on a case-by-case basis,

*Conscious* of the responsibility of the administering Power to ensure the full and speedy implementation of the Declaration in respect of French Polynesia,

*Mindful* that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the peoples of the Territories and to fulfil its mandate effectively, on a case-by-case basis, it is important for it to be apprised by the administering Powers and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territories, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territories,

*Recognizing* the significant health and environmental impacts of nuclear testing conducted by the administering Power in the Territory over a 30-year period,

<sup>1</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/68/23), chap. IX.*

<sup>2</sup> Resolution 1514 (XV).

and further recognizing the concerns in the Territory related to the consequences of those activities on the lives and health of the people, especially children and vulnerable groups, as well as the environment of the region,

*Recognizing also* the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the peoples of the Territories in gaining a better understanding of the options for self-determination,

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of French Polynesia to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Also reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the people of French Polynesia to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territory in order to foster an awareness among the people of French Polynesia of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;

3. *Calls upon* the administering Power to participate in and cooperate fully with the work of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in order to implement the provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration and in order to advise the Special Committee on the implementation of the provisions under Article 73 *b* of the Charter on efforts to promote self-government in French Polynesia, and encourages the administering Power to facilitate visiting and special missions to the Territory;

4. *Calls upon* the Government of France to intensify its dialogue with French Polynesia in order to facilitate rapid progress towards a fair and effective self-determination process, under which the terms and timelines for an act of self-determination would be agreed;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with relevant specialized agencies of the United Nations, to compile a report on the environmental, ecological, health and other impacts as a consequence of the 30-year period of nuclear testing in the Territory;

6. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of the Non-Self-Governing Territory of French Polynesia and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session.

## Draft resolution IV Question of Tokelau

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the question of Tokelau,

*Having examined* the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2013 relating to Tokelau,<sup>1</sup>

*Recalling* its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to Non-Self-Governing Territories, in particular General Assembly resolution 67/131 of 18 December 2012,

*Noting with appreciation* the continuing exemplary cooperation of New Zealand as the administering Power with regard to the work of the Special Committee relating to Tokelau and its readiness to permit access by United Nations visiting missions to the Territory,

*Noting with appreciation also* the collaborative contribution to the development of Tokelau by New Zealand and the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme,

*Noting* that, as a small island Territory, Tokelau exemplifies the situation of most remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories and that, as a case study pointing to successful cooperation for decolonization, Tokelau has wider significance for the United Nations as it seeks to complete its work in decolonization,

*Noting also* the status of Tokelau as an associate member of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,

*Recalling* that New Zealand and Tokelau signed on 21 November 2003 a document entitled “Joint statement of the principles of partnership”, which sets out the rights and responsibilities of the two partners,

*Bearing in mind* the decision of the General Fono at its meeting in November 2003, following extensive consultations undertaken in all three villages, to explore formally with New Zealand the option of self-government in free association and its decision in August 2005 to hold in February 2006 a referendum on self-determination on the basis of a draft constitution for Tokelau and a draft treaty of free association with New Zealand, and its subsequent decision to hold a further referendum in October 2007, and that the two referendums did not produce the two-thirds majority of the valid votes cast required by the General Fono to change the status of Tokelau from that of a Non-Self-Governing Territory under the administration of New Zealand,

1. *Acknowledges* the decision of the General Fono in 2008 that consideration of any future act of self-determination by Tokelau will be deferred and that New Zealand and Tokelau will devote renewed effort and attention to ensuring

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<sup>1</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/68/23), chap. XI.*

that essential services and infrastructure on the atolls of Tokelau are enhanced and strengthened, thereby ensuring an enhanced quality of life for the people of Tokelau;

2. *Welcomes* the progress made towards the devolution of power to the three taupulega (village councils) since 2004, and notes that further discussion is planned on the recommendations of the report on the devolution review, compiled in 2012;

3. *Notes* that Tokelau and New Zealand remain firmly committed to the ongoing development of Tokelau for the long-term benefit of the people of Tokelau, with particular emphasis on the further development of facilities on each atoll that meet their current requirements;

4. *Acknowledges* the adoption by Tokelau of its National Strategic Plan for 2010-2015 and that the Joint Commitment for Development between Tokelau and New Zealand 2011-2015 will focus on a viable transportation arrangement, infrastructure development, human resources capacity and the strengthening of governance;

5. *Also acknowledges* the ongoing and consistent commitment of New Zealand to meeting the social and economic requirements of the people of Tokelau, including the completion of the Tokelau Renewable Energy Project and a new shipping charter service, as well as the support and cooperation of the United Nations Development Programme and the World Health Organization;

6. *Further acknowledges* Tokelau's need for continued support from the international community and Tokelau's desire to be able to gain access to resources from international organizations, such as the Global Environment Facility, and for active membership in such organizations as the Alliance of Small Island States and the International Renewable Energy Agency, in line with General Assembly resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970;

7. *Recalls with satisfaction* the establishment and operation of the Tokelau International Trust Fund to support the ongoing needs of Tokelau, and calls upon Member States and international and regional agencies to contribute to the Fund and thereby lend practical support to Tokelau in overcoming the problems of smallness, isolation and lack of resources;

8. *Welcomes* the cooperative attitude of the other States and territories in the region towards Tokelau and their support for its economic and political aspirations and its increasing participation in regional and international affairs;

9. *Calls upon* the administering Power and United Nations agencies to continue to provide assistance to Tokelau as it further develops;

10. *Welcomes* the actions taken by the administering Power to transmit to the Secretary-General under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations information regarding the political, economic and social situation of Tokelau;

11. *Also welcomes* the commitment of both Tokelau and New Zealand to continue to work together in the interests of Tokelau and its people;

12. *Commends* the completion of the first phase of the Tokelau Renewable Energy Project with the support of the administering Power;

13. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to examine the question of the Non-Self-Governing Territory of Tokelau and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session.



**Draft resolution V**  
**Questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, Saint Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands**

**A**  
**General**

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the questions of the Non-Self-Governing Territories of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, Saint Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands, hereinafter referred to as “the Territories”,

*Having examined* the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2013,<sup>1</sup>

*Recalling* all resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to those Territories, including, in particular, the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session on the individual Territories covered by the present resolutions,

*Recognizing* that all available options for self-determination of the Territories are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

*Recalling* its resolution 1541 (XV), containing the principles that should guide Member States in determining whether or not an obligation exists to transmit the information called for under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations,

*Expressing concern* that 53 years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,<sup>2</sup> there still remain a number of Non-Self-Governing Territories,

*Conscious* of the importance of continuing effective implementation of the Declaration, taking into account the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by 2020 and the plans of action for the Second<sup>3</sup> and Third International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism,

*Recognizing* that the specific characteristics and the aspirations of the peoples of the Territories require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options for self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

<sup>1</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/68/23), chap. X.*

<sup>2</sup> Resolution 1514 (XV).

<sup>3</sup> A/56/61, annex.

*Noting* the stated position of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the stated position of the Government of the United States of America on the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration,

*Noting also* the constitutional developments in some Non-Self-Governing Territories affecting the internal structure of governance about which the Special Committee has received information,

*Convinced* that the wishes and aspirations of the peoples of the Territories should continue to guide the development of their future political status and that referendums, free and fair elections and other forms of popular consultation play an important role in ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the people,

*Convinced also* that any negotiations to determine the status of a Territory must take place with the active involvement and participation of the people of that Territory, under the auspices of the United Nations, on a case-by-case basis, and that the views of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in respect of their right to self-determination should be ascertained,

*Noting* that a number of Non-Self-Governing Territories have expressed concern at the procedure followed by some administering Powers, contrary to the wishes of the Territories themselves, of amending or enacting legislation for application to the Territories, either through orders in council, in order to apply to the Territories the international treaty obligations of the administering Power, or through the unilateral application of laws and regulations,

*Aware* of the importance of the international financial services and tourism sectors for the economies of some of the Non-Self-Governing Territories,

*Noting* the continued cooperation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories at the local and regional levels, including participation in the work of regional organizations,

*Mindful* that United Nations visiting and special missions provide an effective means of ascertaining the situation in the Territories, that some Territories have not received a United Nations visiting mission for a long time and that no visiting missions have been sent to some of the Territories, and considering the possibility of sending further visiting missions to the Territories at an appropriate time, in consultation with the relevant administering Powers and in accordance with the relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations on decolonization,

*Mindful also* that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the peoples of the Territories and to fulfil its mandate effectively, it is important for it to be apprised by the relevant administering Powers and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territories, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the peoples of the Territories,

*Acknowledging* the regular transmission by the administering Powers to the Secretary-General of information called for under Article 73 *e* of the Charter,

*Aware* of the importance both to the Territories and to the Special Committee of the participation of elected and appointed representatives of the Territories in the work of the Committee,

*Recognizing* the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the peoples of the Territories in gaining a better understanding of the options for self-determination,

*Mindful*, in that connection, that the holding of regional seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions and at Headquarters, with the active participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, provides a helpful means for the Special Committee to fulfil its mandate, and that the regional nature of the seminars, which alternate between the Caribbean and the Pacific, is a crucial element in the context of a United Nations programme for ascertaining the political status of the Territories,

*Noting* the stated positions of the representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories before the Special Committee and at its regional seminars,

*Welcoming* the 2013 Caribbean regional seminar held by the Special Committee in Quito from 28 to 30 May 2013, as a significant and forward-looking event, which enabled the participants to assess the progress made in the decolonization process and to review the Committee's existing working methods and renew its momentum in implementing its historic task,

*Recognizing* the importance of the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the seminar, which are annexed to the report of the Special Committee<sup>4</sup> and which outline the findings of the seminar, including, especially, the way forward for the decolonization process within the context of the proclamation by the General Assembly of the period 2011-2020 as the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,

*Conscious* of the particular vulnerability of the Territories to natural disasters and environmental degradation, and in that connection bearing in mind the applicability to the Territories of the programmes of action or outcome documents of all United Nations world conferences and special sessions of the General Assembly in the economic and social spheres,

*Noting with appreciation* the contribution to the development of some Territories by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank, the Caribbean Community, the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, the Pacific Islands Forum and the agencies of the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific,

*Recalling* the statement made by the representative of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean at the Caribbean regional seminar held in Kingstown from 31 May to 2 June 2011 that all six Caribbean Non-Self-Governing Territories are active associate members of the Commission,

*Aware* that the Human Rights Committee, as part of its mandate under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>5</sup> reviews the status of the self-

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<sup>4</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/68/23).*

<sup>5</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

determination process, including in small island Territories under examination by the Special Committee,

*Recalling* the ongoing efforts of the Special Committee in carrying out a critical review of its work with the aim of making appropriate and constructive recommendations and decisions to attain its objectives in accordance with its mandate,

*Recognizing* that the annual working papers prepared by the Secretariat on developments in each of the small Territories,<sup>6</sup> as well as the substantive documentation and information furnished by experts, scholars, non-governmental organizations and other sources, have provided important inputs to update the present resolutions,

*Recalling* the report of the Secretary-General on the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,<sup>7</sup>

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Also reaffirms* that, in the process of decolonization, there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination, which is also a fundamental human right, as recognized under the relevant human rights conventions;

3. *Further reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the peoples of the Territories themselves to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection reiterates its long-standing call for the administering Powers, in cooperation with the territorial Governments and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territories in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;

4. *Stresses* the importance of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples being apprised of the views and wishes of the peoples of the Territories and enhancing its understanding of their conditions, including the nature and scope of the existing political and constitutional arrangements between the Non-Self-Governing Territories and their respective administering Powers;

5. *Requests* the administering Powers to continue to transmit regularly to the Secretary-General information called for under Article 73 *e* of the Charter;

6. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to participate in and cooperate fully with the work of the Special Committee in order to implement the provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration and in order to advise the Special Committee on the implementation of the provisions under Article 73 *b* of the

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<sup>6</sup> A/AC.109/2013/3-13.

<sup>7</sup> A/65/330 and Add.1.

Charter on efforts to promote self-government in the Territories, and encourages the administering Powers to facilitate visiting and special missions to the Territories;

7. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Powers under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and to preserve the cultural identity of the Territories, and, as a priority, to mitigate the effects of the current global financial crisis where possible, in consultation with the territorial Governments concerned, towards the strengthening and diversification of their respective economies;

8. *Requests* the Territories and the administering Powers to take all measures necessary to protect and conserve the environment of the Territories against any degradation, and once again requests the specialized agencies concerned to continue to monitor environmental conditions in the Territories and to provide assistance to those Territories, consistent with their prevailing rules of procedure;

9. *Welcomes* the participation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in regional activities, including the work of regional organizations;

10. *Stresses* the importance of implementing the plans of action for the Second<sup>3</sup> and Third International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism, in particular by expediting the application of the work programme for the decolonization of each Non-Self-Governing Territory, on a case-by-case basis, as well as by ensuring that periodic analyses are undertaken of the progress and extent of the implementation of the Declaration in each Territory, and that the working papers prepared by the Secretariat on each Territory should fully reflect developments in those Territories;

11. *Urges* Member States to contribute to the efforts of the United Nations to usher in a world free of colonialism within the context of the International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism, and calls upon them to continue to give their full support to the Special Committee in its endeavours towards that noble goal;

12. *Stresses* the importance of the various constitutional exercises in the respective Territories administered by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, and led by the territorial Governments, designed to address internal constitutional structures within the present territorial arrangements, and decides to follow closely the developments concerning the future political status of those Territories;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to report to the General Assembly on a regular basis on the implementation of decolonization resolutions adopted since the declaration of the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism;

14. *Reiterates its request* that the Human Rights Committee collaborate with the Special Committee, within the framework of its mandate on the right to self-determination as contained in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>5</sup> with the aim of exchanging information, given that the Human Rights Committee is mandated to review the situation, including political and constitutional developments, in many of the Non-Self-Governing Territories that are within the purview of the Special Committee;

15. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to collaborate with the Economic and Social Council and its relevant subsidiary intergovernmental bodies,

within the framework of their respective mandates, with the aim of exchanging information on developments in those Non-Self-Governing Territories which are reviewed by those bodies;

16. *Also requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session and on the implementation of the present resolution.

## **B** **Individual Territories**

*The General Assembly,*

*Referring to resolution A above,*

### **I** **American Samoa**

*Taking note* of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on American Samoa<sup>8</sup> and other relevant information,

*Recalling* the statement made by the representative of the Governor of American Samoa at the Pacific regional seminar held in Quito from 30 May to 1 June 2012 that the Territory's position that it should be removed from the United Nations list of the Non-Self-Governing Territories continued to hold, that it was time to make political and economic progress while respecting the concerns of the administering Power and the United Nations, and that there was a need for a more structured approach to determine the will of the people with a detailed workplan on how best to gauge the will of the people on political status,

*Aware* that, under United States law, the Secretary of the Interior has administrative jurisdiction over American Samoa,<sup>9</sup>

*Recalling* the position of the administering Power and the statements made by representatives of American Samoa at regional seminars, including at the 2011 Caribbean regional seminar, inviting the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to send a visiting mission to the Territory,

*Aware* of the work of the Future Political Status Study Commission, completed in 2006, the release of its report, with recommendations, in January 2007 and the creation of the American Samoa Constitutional Review Committee in the Territory, as well as the holding in June 2010 of American Samoa's fourth Constitutional Convention,

*Noting*, in that regard, the statement made by the representative of the Governor of American Samoa at the 2012 Pacific regional seminar and previous policy papers presented to the Special Committee stating that, against a backdrop of a decades-long popular preference for integration with the United States of America,

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<sup>8</sup> A/AC.109/2013/11.

<sup>9</sup> United States Congress, 1929 (48 U.S.C. Sec. 1661, 45 Stat. 1253), and Secretary's Order 2657, Department of the Interior, United States of America, 1951, as amended.

the Territory wished to move forward on political status, local autonomy and self-governance issues, as well as remarks made by the Governor and the United States Congressman representing American Samoa, in 2012, on the issue of reviewing the relationship of the Territory with the United States and looking at options to become more independent, including a compact of free association agreement,

*Noting* the holding of elections in the Territory in November 2012,

*Acknowledging* the indication by the territorial Government, including at the 2012 Pacific regional seminar, that the effects of certain federal laws on the economy of the Territory give serious cause for concern,

*Aware* that in July 2012, the United States passed Public Law 112-149, which includes a provision to delay the minimum wage increases in American Samoa, as provided by United States Public Law 110-28, until September 2015,

*Aware also* that American Samoa continues to be the only United States Territory to receive financial assistance from the administering Power for the operations of the territorial Government,

1. *Welcomes* the work of the territorial Government with respect to moving forward on political status, local autonomy and self-governance issues with a view to making political and economic progress;

2. *Expresses once again its appreciation* for the invitation extended in 2011 by the Governor of American Samoa to the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to send a visiting mission to the Territory, calls upon the administering Power to facilitate such a mission if the territorial Government so desires, and requests the Chair of the Special Committee to take all the steps necessary to that end;

3. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning a public awareness programme, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

4. *Calls upon* the administering Power to assist the territorial Government in the diversification and sustainability of the economy of the Territory and to address employment and cost-of-living issues;

## **II** **Anguilla**

*Taking note* of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Anguilla<sup>10</sup> and other relevant information,

*Recalling* the holding of the 2003 Caribbean regional seminar in Anguilla, hosted by the territorial Government and made possible by the administering Power, the first time that the seminar had been held in a Non-Self-Governing Territory,

*Recalling also* the statement made by the representative of Anguilla at the Pacific regional seminar held in Quito from 30 May to 1 June 2012 that the people of the Territory are concerned that they are being denied the full range of

<sup>10</sup> A/AC.109/2013/5.

decolonization options while the territorial Government seeks a comprehensive overhaul of the current Constitution, in particular a serious reduction in the powers of the Governor under a drafting exercise that began in 2011,

*Aware* of the follow-up meeting, held after the 2012 Pacific regional seminar, between the Chair of the Special Committee and the Chief Minister of Anguilla, who reiterated the urgent need for a visiting mission,

*Noting* the internal constitutional review process resumed by the territorial Government in 2006, the work of the Constitutional and Electoral Reform Commission, which prepared its report in August 2006, the holding of public and other consultative meetings in 2007 on proposed constitutional amendments to be presented to the administering Power and the decisions taken in 2008 and 2011 to set up a drafting team to prepare a new constitution and present it for public consultation in the Territory,

*Aware* of certain difficulties and tensions in the relations between the territorial Government and the administering Power regarding budgetary and economic matters,

*Noting* the participation of the Territory as a member in the Caribbean Overseas Countries and Territories Council and an associate member in the Caribbean Community, the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

*Aware* of the willingness expressed by the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States and the Caribbean Community to assist in the resolution of difficulties being experienced by the territorial Government in respect of its relations with the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland,

1. *Welcomes* the preparations made for a new constitution, and urges that constitutional discussions with the administering Power, including public consultations, be concluded as soon as possible;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory in its current efforts with regard to advancing the internal constitutional review exercise, if requested;

3. *Notes* the expression of grave concern by the Caribbean Community at the tension between the administering Power and the territorial Government and the deterioration in the Territory's governance arrangements;

4. *Stresses* the importance of the previously expressed desire of the territorial Government for a visiting mission by the Special Committee, calls upon the administering Power to facilitate such a mission, if the territorial Government so desires, and requests the Chair of the Special Committee to take all the necessary steps to that end;

5. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public consultative outreach efforts consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

6. *Calls upon* the administering Power to assist the territorial Government in strengthening its commitments in the economic domain, including budgetary matters, with regional support as needed and appropriate;



7. *Welcomes* the active participation of the Territory in the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

### **III Bermuda**

*Taking note* of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Bermuda<sup>11</sup> and other relevant information,

*Aware* of the statement made by the representative of Bermuda at the Pacific regional seminar held in Quito from 30 May to 1 June 2012,

*Conscious* of the different viewpoints of the political parties on the future status of the Territory, and noting the results of successive surveys by local media, according to which a majority of respondents did not wish to sever ties with the United Kingdom, the administering Power, and a minority was in favour of independence,

*Recalling* the dispatch of the United Nations special mission to Bermuda in 2005, at the request of the territorial Government and with the concurrence of the administering Power, which provided information to the people of the Territory on the role of the United Nations in the process of self-determination, on the legitimate political status options as clearly defined in General Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and on the experiences of other small States that have achieved a full measure of self-government,

*Cognizant* of the potential usefulness of regional ties for the development of a small island Territory and of Bermuda's associate membership in the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

1. *Stresses* the importance of the 2005 report of the Bermuda Independence Commission, which provides a thorough examination of the facts surrounding independence, and continues to regret that the plans for public meetings and the presentation of a Green Paper to the House of Assembly followed by a White Paper outlining the policy proposals for an independent Bermuda have so far not materialized;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public educational outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

3. *Welcomes* the entry of Bermuda as an associate member of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in 2012;

### **IV British Virgin Islands**

*Taking note* of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the British Virgin Islands<sup>12</sup> and other relevant information,

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<sup>11</sup> A/AC.109/2013/6.

<sup>12</sup> A/AC.109/2013/9.

*Noting* the statement made by the representative of the British Virgin Islands at the Caribbean regional seminar held in Quito from 28 to 30 May 2013, that while the Territory's relationship with the administering Power was stable and not problematic, it could be enhanced,

*Aware* of the negative impact of the global economic slowdown on the growth of the financial and tourism services sectors of the Territory,

*Cognizant* of the potential usefulness of regional ties for the development of a small island Territory and of the Territory's membership in the Caribbean Overseas Countries and Territories Council,

1. *Recalls* the 2007 Constitution of the British Virgin Islands, and stresses the importance of continued discussions on constitutional matters, to accord greater responsibility to the territorial Government for the effective implementation of the Constitution and increased levels of education relating to constitutional matters;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

3. *Welcomes* the active participation of the Territory in the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

4. *Recalls* the holding, in 2012, of the meeting of the Inter-Virgin Islands Council between the Territory and the United States Virgin Islands;

## **V**

### **Cayman Islands**

*Taking note* of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the Cayman Islands<sup>13</sup> and other relevant information,

*Conscious* of the statement made by the representative of the territorial Government at the 2010 Pacific regional seminar held in Nouméa,

*Aware* of the work, in accordance with the 2009 Constitution, of the new Constitutional Commission, which serves as an advisory body on constitutional matters,

*Acknowledging* that, in spite of the global economic downturn and unemployment issues, the financial services and stay-over tourism industries of the Territory reportedly grew in 2012, indicating a mild economic recovery, and recognizing the establishment of the Territory's first special economic zone,

*Cognizant* of the potential usefulness of regional ties for the development of a small island Territory and of the Territory's membership in the Caribbean Overseas Countries and Territories Council,

1. *Recalls* the 2009 Constitution of the Cayman Islands, and stresses the importance of the work of the Constitutional Commission, including its work on human rights education;

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<sup>13</sup> A/AC.109/2013/8.

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public awareness outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

3. *Welcomes* the active participation of the Territory in the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

4. *Also welcomes* the efforts made by the territorial Government to implement financial sector management policies, medical and sports tourism initiatives and unemployment alleviation programmes in various economic sectors, including through the establishment of special economic zones, economic diversification, and job and investment opportunities;

## **VI Guam**

*Taking note* of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Guam<sup>14</sup> and other relevant information,

*Noting* the statement made by the representative of the Governor of Guam at the Caribbean regional seminar held in Quito from 28 to 30 May 2013, presenting an update on Guam's efforts towards decolonization and on the engagement of the Guam Commission on Decolonization for the Implementation and Exercise of Chamorro Self-Determination in reinforcing public awareness in order to address the limited and distorted understanding of decolonization, finding creative ways to raise funds for the education programme and completing three task force position papers so that they are easy for voters to compare, contrast and understand,

*Cognizant* of the efforts made by the Guam Commission on Decolonization to populate the decolonization registry, as required by public law, and to enhance the ability to expediently register those who have not yet been registered,

*Aware* that, under United States law, the relations between the territorial Government and the federal Government in all matters that are not the programme responsibility of another federal department or agency are under the general administrative supervision of the Secretary of the Interior,<sup>15</sup>

*Recalling* that, in a referendum held in 1987, the registered and eligible voters of Guam endorsed a draft Guam Commonwealth Act that would establish a new framework for relations between the Territory and the administering Power, providing for a greater measure of internal self-government for Guam and recognition of the right of the Chamorro people of Guam to self-determination for the Territory,

*Recalling also* the requests by the elected representatives and non-governmental organizations of the Territory, including at the 2012 Pacific regional seminar, that Guam not be removed from the list of the Non-Self-Governing Territories with which the Special Committee is concerned, pending the self-determination of the Chamorro people and taking into account their legitimate rights and interests,

<sup>14</sup> A/AC.109/2013/13.

<sup>15</sup> United States Congress, Organic Act of Guam, 1950, as amended.

*Aware* that negotiations between the administering Power and the territorial Government on the draft Guam Commonwealth Act ended in 1997 and that Guam has subsequently established a non-binding plebiscite process for a self-determination vote by the eligible Chamorro voters,

*Cognizant* of the importance of the administering Power continuing to implement its programme of transferring surplus federal land to the Government of Guam,

*Noting* that the people of the Territory have called for reform in the programme of the administering Power with respect to the thorough, unconditional and expeditious transfer of land property to the people of Guam,

*Aware* of the deep concern expressed by civil society and other parties regarding the potential social, cultural, economic and environmental impacts of the planned transfer of additional military personnel of the administering Power to the Territory and that the public assessment for the supplemental environmental impact statement was completed in 2012,

*Conscious* that immigration into Guam has resulted in the indigenous Chamorros becoming a minority in their homeland,

1. *Welcomes* the convening of the Guam Commission on Decolonization for the Implementation and Exercise of Chamorro Self-Determination and its work on a self-determination vote, as well as its public education efforts;

2. *Calls once again upon* the administering Power to take into consideration the expressed will of the Chamorro people as supported by Guam voters in the referendum of 1987 and as subsequently provided for in Guam law regarding Chamorro self-determination efforts, encourages the administering Power and the territorial Government to enter into negotiations on the matter, and stresses the need for continued close monitoring of the overall situation in the Territory;

3. *Requests* the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government, to continue to transfer land to the original landowners of the Territory, to continue to recognize and to respect the political rights and the cultural and ethnic identity of the Chamorro people of Guam and to take all measures necessary to address the concerns of the territorial Government with regard to the question of immigration;

4. *Also requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating public outreach efforts, including through the funding of the public education campaign, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested, and welcomes the recent outreach work by the territorial Government;

5. *Further requests* the administering Power to cooperate in establishing programmes for the sustainable development of the economic activities and enterprises of the Territory, noting the special role of the Chamorro people in the development of Guam;

## VII Montserrat

*Taking note* of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Montserrat<sup>16</sup> and other relevant information,

*Recalling* the statement made by the Premier of Montserrat at the 2012 Pacific regional seminar held in Quito that the current relationship with the administering Power was one made by free choice and that the Territory should be removed from the list of the Non-Self-Governing Territories,

*Recalling also* the statements made by the members of the Special Committee present at the 2012 Pacific regional seminar and the clarification made by the Secretariat regarding United Nations procedures in that regard,

*Taking note* of the communication addressed to the Chair of the Special Committee by the opposition leader of Montserrat expressing concern that the Premier had no prior discussion with the legislature of Montserrat over the content of his statement before requesting the Special Committee to remove the Territory from the list of the Non-Self-Governing Territories,

*Recalling* the approval of a new Constitution in 2010 and the work of the territorial Government to update the relevant parts of the legislation of the Territory so that the Constitution could enter into force in 2011,

*Aware* that Montserrat continues to receive budgetary aid from the administering Power for the operation of the territorial Government,

*Recalling* the statements made by participants at the 2012 Pacific regional seminar encouraging the administering Power to commit sufficient resources to meet the special needs of the Territory,

*Noting with concern* the continuing consequences of the 1995 volcanic eruption, which led to the evacuation of three quarters of the population of the Territory to safe areas of the island and to areas outside the Territory, which continues to have enduring consequences for the economy of the island,

*Acknowledging* the continuing assistance provided to the Territory by States members of the Caribbean Community, in particular Antigua and Barbuda, which has offered safe refuge and access to educational and health facilities, as well as employment for thousands who have left the Territory,

*Noting* the continuing efforts of the administering Power and the territorial Government to deal with the consequences of the volcanic eruption,

*Cognizant* of the potential usefulness of regional ties for the development of a small island Territory and of the Territory's membership in the Caribbean Overseas Countries and Territories Council,

1. *Recalls* the 2011 Constitution of Montserrat and the work of the territorial Government with respect to moving forward to consolidate the gains provided for in the Constitution;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter,

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<sup>16</sup> A/AC.109/2013/4.

and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

3. *Welcomes* the Territory's participation in the 2012 inauguration of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States Assembly, its steps towards accession to the economic union treaty of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States and its active participation in the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

4. *Calls upon* the administering Power, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as regional and other organizations, to continue to provide assistance to the Territory in alleviating the consequences of the volcanic eruption;

### **VIII Pitcairn**

*Taking note* of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Pitcairn<sup>17</sup> and other relevant information,

*Taking into account* the unique character of Pitcairn in terms of population, area and access,

*Aware* that the administering Power and the territorial Government have implemented a new governance structure to strengthen administrative capacity in the Territory, based on consultations with the people of the Territory, and that Pitcairn continues to receive budgetary aid from the administering Power for the operation of the territorial Government,

*Recalling* that the administering Power and the Pitcairn Government are currently working on a five-year strategic development plan for the island,

1. *Welcomes* all efforts by the administering Power and the territorial Government that would further devolve operational responsibilities to the Territory, with a view to gradually expanding self-government, including through training of local personnel;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

3. *Also requests* the administering Power to continue its assistance for the improvement of the economic, social, educational and other conditions of the population of the Territory and to continue its discussions with the territorial Government on how best to support socioeconomic and environmental security in Pitcairn;

4. *Welcomes* the work carried out on the preparation of a five-year strategic development plan for the island;

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<sup>17</sup> A/AC.109/2013/3.

## **IX Saint Helena**

*Taking note* of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Saint Helena<sup>18</sup> and other relevant information,

*Recalling* the statement made by the representative of Saint Helena at the Caribbean regional seminar held in Frigate Bay, Saint Kitts and Nevis, from 12 to 14 May 2009,

*Taking into account* the unique character of Saint Helena in terms of its population, geography and natural resources,

*Noting* the fact that, in January 2013, following a resolution passed in September 2012 by the Legislative Council to undertake minor adjustments to the 2009 Constitution of Saint Helena in order to provide improvements to section 36, Election of elected members of Executive Council, and section 69, Public Accounts Committee, a public consultation process was launched,

*Aware* of the proclamation dissolving the Legislative Council on 19 April 2013 and that a general election was held in July 2013,

*Cognizant* that Saint Helena continues to receive budgetary aid from the administering Power for the operation of the territorial Government,

*Aware* of the efforts of the administering Power and the territorial Government to improve the socioeconomic conditions of the population of Saint Helena, in particular in the areas of employment and transport and communications infrastructure,

*Noting* the efforts of the Territory to address Saint Helena's demands on its labour market over the next 10 years, including through the Labour Market Strategy for the period 2012-2014, the Sustainable Economic Development Plan 2012/13-2021/22 and the new National Strategy for the Development of Statistics,

*Noting also* the importance of improving the infrastructure and accessibility of Saint Helena and, in that regard, the approval of the administering Power of the building of an airport on the island of Saint Helena,

1. *Stresses* the importance of the Territory's 2009 Constitution, and takes note of proposals to promote the further development of democratic and good governance;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

3. *Requests* the administering Power and relevant international organizations to continue to support the efforts of the territorial Government to address the Territory's socioeconomic development challenges;

4. *Calls upon* the administering Power to take into account the unique geographical character of Saint Helena while resolving any emerging issues related to the construction of the airport;

<sup>18</sup> A/AC.109/2013/7.

## **X**

### **Turks and Caicos Islands**

*Taking note* of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the Turks and Caicos Islands<sup>19</sup> and other relevant information,

*Recalling* the statement made by the representative of the Turks and Caicos Islands at the 2009 Caribbean regional seminar held in Frigate Bay, Saint Kitts and Nevis,

*Recalling also* the dispatch of the United Nations special mission to the Turks and Caicos Islands in 2006 at the request of the territorial Government and with the concurrence of the administering Power,

*Aware* of the 2002 report of the Constitutional Modernization Review Body, and acknowledging the 2006 Constitution of the Turks and Caicos Islands agreed upon between the administering Power and the territorial Government,

*Noting* the decision of the administering Power to suspend parts of the 2006 Constitution, the subsequent presentation of a draft constitution for public consultation in 2011 and the introduction of a new constitution for the Territory, as well as the election of a new territorial Government in November 2012,

*Acknowledging* the impact that the global economic slowdown and other relevant developments have had on tourism and related real estate development, the mainstays of the economy of the Territory,

1. *Notes with grave concern* the ongoing situation in the Turks and Caicos Islands, and notes the efforts of the administering Power to restore good governance, including through the introduction in 2011 of a new constitution and the holding of elections in November 2012, and sound financial management in the Territory;

2. *Notes* the positions and repeated calls of the Caribbean Community and the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries in support of a democratically elected territorial Government;

3. *Also notes* the extensive public consultations undertaken by the Constitutional and Electoral Reform Adviser and the continuing debate on constitutional and electoral reform within the Territory, and stresses the importance of participation by all groups and interested parties in the consultation process;

4. *Stresses* the importance of having in place in the Territory a constitution that reflects the aspirations and wishes of the people of the Territory, based on the mechanisms for popular consultation;

5. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

6. *Welcomes* the active participation of the Territory in the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

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<sup>19</sup> A/AC.109/2013/12.



7. *Also welcomes* the continuing efforts made by the territorial Government addressing the need for attention to be paid to the enhancement of socioeconomic development across the Territory;

## **XI**

### **United States Virgin Islands**

*Taking note* of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the United States Virgin Islands<sup>20</sup> and other relevant information,

*Aware* that under United States law the relations between the territorial Government and the federal Government in all matters not the programme responsibility of another federal department or agency are under the general administrative supervision of the Secretary of the Interior,<sup>21</sup>

*Aware also* of the fifth attempt of the Territory to review the existing Revised Organic Act, which organizes its internal governance arrangements, as well as its requests to the administering Power and the United Nations system for assistance to its public education programme,

*Cognizant* that a draft constitution was proposed in 2009 and subsequently forwarded to the administering Power, which in 2010 requested the Territory to consider its objections to the draft constitution,

*Cognizant also* that the Fifth Revision Convention, established and convened in 2012, was mandated to ratify and approve the final revised draft constitution,

*Noting* the holding of elections in the Territory in November 2012,

*Aware* of the closing of the Hovensa plant, and noting the continuing negative impact on manufacturing and on the labour situation in the Territory,

*Cognizant* of the potential usefulness of regional ties for the development of a small island Territory,

1. *Welcomes* the proposal of a draft constitution emanating from the Territory in 2009, as a result of the work of the United States Virgin Islands Fifth Constitutional Convention, for review by the administering Power, and requests the administering Power to assist the territorial Government in achieving its political, economic and social goals, in particular the successful conclusion of the ongoing internal Constitutional Convention exercise;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to facilitate the process for approval of the proposed territorial constitution in the United States Congress and its implementation, once agreed upon in the Territory;

3. *Also requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning a public education programme, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

4. *Expresses its concern* regarding the continuing negative impact of the Hovensa plant closure;

<sup>20</sup> A/AC.109/2013/10.

<sup>21</sup> United States Congress, Revised Organic Act, 1954.

5. *Reiterates its call* for the inclusion of the Territory in regional programmes of the United Nations Development Programme, consistent with the participation of other Non-Self-Governing Territories;

6. *Welcomes* the active participation of the Territory in the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

7. *Recalls* the holding, in 2012, of the meeting of the Inter-Virgin Islands Council between the Territory and the British Virgin Islands.

## **Draft resolution VI Dissemination of information on decolonization**

*The General Assembly,*

*Having examined* the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2013 relating to the dissemination of information on decolonization and publicity for the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization,<sup>1</sup>

*Recalling* its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and other resolutions and decisions of the United Nations concerning the dissemination of information on decolonization, in particular General Assembly resolution [67/133](#) of 18 December 2012,

*Recognizing* the need for flexible, practical and innovative approaches towards reviewing the options of self-determination for the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories with a view to implementing the plan of action for the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,

*Reiterating* the importance of dissemination of information as an instrument for furthering the aims of the Declaration, and mindful of the role of world public opinion in effectively assisting the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories to achieve self-determination,

*Recognizing* the role played by the administering Powers in transmitting information to the Secretary-General in accordance with the terms of Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations,

*Recognizing also* the role of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, through the United Nations information centres, in the dissemination of information at the regional level on the activities of the United Nations,

*Recalling* the issuance by the Department of Public Information, in consultation with the United Nations Development Programme, the specialized agencies and the Special Committee, of an information leaflet on assistance programmes available to the Non-Self-Governing Territories,

*Aware* of the role of non-governmental organizations in the dissemination of information on decolonization,

1. *Approves* the activities in the field of dissemination of information on decolonization undertaken by the Department of Public Information and the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization, and recalls with satisfaction the publication, in accordance with General Assembly resolution [61/129](#) of 14 December 2006, of the information leaflet on what the United Nations can do to assist Non-Self-Governing Territories, which was updated for the United Nations website on decolonization in May 2009, and encourages continued updating and wide dissemination of the information leaflet;

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<sup>1</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/68/23), chap. III.*

2. *Considers it important* to continue and expand its efforts to ensure the widest possible dissemination of information on decolonization, with particular emphasis on the options for self-determination available for the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories, and, to this end requests the Department of Public Information, through the United Nations information centres in the relevant regions, to actively engage and seek new and innovative ways to disseminate material to the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to further enhance the information provided on the United Nations decolonization website and to continue to include the full series of reports of the regional seminars on decolonization, the statements and scholarly papers presented at those seminars and links to the full series of reports of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

4. *Requests* the Department of Public Information to continue its efforts to update web-based information on the assistance programmes available to the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

5. *Requests* the Department of Political Affairs and the Department of Public Information to implement the recommendations of the Special Committee and to continue their efforts to take measures through all the media available, including publications, radio and television, as well as the Internet, to give publicity to the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization and, inter alia:

(a) To develop procedures to collect, prepare and disseminate, particularly to the Non-Self-Governing Territories, basic material on the issue of self-determination of the peoples of the Territories;

(b) To seek the full cooperation of the administering Powers in the discharge of the tasks referred to above;

(c) To explore further the idea of a programme of collaboration with the decolonization focal points of territorial Governments, particularly in the Pacific and Caribbean regions, to help to improve the exchange of information;

(d) To encourage the involvement of non-governmental organizations in the dissemination of information on decolonization;

(e) To encourage the involvement of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the dissemination of information on decolonization;

(f) To report to the Special Committee on measures taken in the implementation of the present resolution;

6. *Requests* all States, including the administering Powers, to accelerate the dissemination of information referred to in paragraph 2 above;

7. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine this question and to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

## **Draft resolution VII Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples**

*The General Assembly,*

*Having examined* the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2013,<sup>1</sup>

*Recalling* its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all its subsequent resolutions concerning the implementation of the Declaration, the most recent of which was resolution 67/134 of 18 December 2012, as well as the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

*Bearing in mind* its resolution 65/119 of 10 December 2010, by which it declared the period 2011-2020 the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and the need to examine ways to ascertain the wishes of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories on the basis of resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions on decolonization,

*Recognizing* that the eradication of colonialism has been one of the priorities of the United Nations and continues to be one of its priorities for the decade that began in 2011,

*Regretting* that measures to eliminate colonialism by 2010, as called for in its resolution 55/146 of 8 December 2000, have not been successful,

*Reiterating its conviction* of the need for the eradication of colonialism, as well as racial discrimination and violations of basic human rights,

*Noting with satisfaction* the continued efforts of the Special Committee in contributing to the effective and complete implementation of the Declaration and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization,

*Stressing* the importance of the formal participation of the administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee,

*Noting with satisfaction* the cooperation and active participation of certain administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee, and encouraging the others also to do so,

*Noting* that the Caribbean regional seminar was held in Quito from 28 to 30 May 2013,

1. *Reaffirms* its resolution 1514 (XV) and all other resolutions and decisions on decolonization, including its resolution 65/119, by which it declared the period 2011-2020 the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and calls upon the administering Powers, in accordance with those resolutions, to take all steps necessary to enable the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories concerned to exercise fully as soon as possible their right to self-determination, including independence;

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<sup>1</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/68/23).*

2. *Reaffirms once again* that the existence of colonialism in any form or manifestation, including economic exploitation, is incompatible with the Charter of the United Nations, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;<sup>2</sup>

3. *Reaffirms its determination* to continue to take all steps necessary to bring about the complete and speedy eradication of colonialism and the faithful observance by all States of the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

4. *Affirms once again its support* for the aspirations of the peoples under colonial rule to exercise their right to self-determination, including independence, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization;

5. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to cooperate fully with the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to develop and finalize, as soon as possible, a constructive programme of work on a case-by-case basis for the Non-Self-Governing Territories to facilitate the implementation of the mandate of the Special Committee and the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

6. *Recalls with satisfaction* the professional, open and transparent conduct of both the February 2006 and the October 2007 referendums to determine the future status of Tokelau, monitored by the United Nations;

7. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to seek suitable means for the immediate and full implementation of the Declaration and to carry out the actions approved by the General Assembly regarding the Second and Third International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism in all Territories that have not yet exercised their right to self-determination, including independence, and in particular:

(a) To formulate specific proposals to bring about an end to colonialism and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session;

(b) To continue to examine the implementation by Member States of resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions on decolonization;

(c) To continue to examine the political, economic and social situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and to recommend, as appropriate, to the General Assembly the most suitable steps to be taken to enable the populations of those Territories to exercise their right to self-determination, including independence, in accordance with the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

(d) To develop and finalize, as soon as possible and in cooperation with the administering Power and the Territory in question, a constructive programme of work on a case-by-case basis for the Non-Self-Governing Territories to facilitate the implementation of the mandate of the Special Committee and the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

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<sup>2</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

(e) To continue to dispatch visiting and special missions to the Non-Self-Governing Territories in accordance with the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

(f) To conduct seminars, as appropriate, for the purpose of receiving and disseminating information on the work of the Special Committee, and to facilitate participation by the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in those seminars;

(g) To take all steps necessary to enlist worldwide support among Governments, as well as national and international organizations, for the achievement of the objectives of the Declaration and the implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

(h) To observe annually the Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories;

8. *Recalls* that the plan of action for the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,<sup>3</sup> updated as necessary, represents an important legislative authority for the attainment of self-government by the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and that the case-by-case assessment of the attainment of self-government in each Territory can make an important contribution to this process;

9. *Calls upon* all States, in particular the administering Powers, as well as the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, to give effect within their respective spheres of competence to the recommendations of the Special Committee for the implementation of the Declaration and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

10. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to ensure that economic and other activities in the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration do not adversely affect the interests of the peoples but instead promote development, and to assist them in the exercise of their right to self-determination;

11. *Urges* the administering Powers concerned to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable rights of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to their natural resources and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources, and requests the relevant administering Power to take all steps necessary to protect the property rights of the peoples of those Territories;

12. *Urges* all States, directly and through their action in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, to provide moral and material assistance, as needed, to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and requests the administering Powers to take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economies of those Territories;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to provide economic, social and other assistance to the Non-Self-Governing Territories and to continue to do so, as

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<sup>3</sup> A/56/61, annex.

appropriate, after they exercise their right to self-determination, including independence;

14. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations visiting missions to the Territories are an effective means of ascertaining the situation in the Territories, as well as the wishes and aspirations of their inhabitants, and calls upon the administering Powers to continue to cooperate with the Special Committee in the discharge of its mandate and to facilitate visiting missions to the Territories;

15. *Calls upon* all the administering Powers to cooperate fully in the work of the Special Committee and to participate formally in its future sessions;

16. *Approves* the report of the Special Committee covering its work during 2013,<sup>1</sup> including the programme of work envisaged for 2014;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Special Committee with the facilities and services required for the implementation of the present resolution, as well as the other resolutions and decisions on decolonization adopted by the General Assembly and the Special Committee.



27. The Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) also recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

### **Question of Gibraltar**

The General Assembly, recalling its decision [67/530](#) of 18 December 2012:

(a) Urges the Governments of Spain and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, while listening to the interests and aspirations of Gibraltar that are legitimate under international law, to reach, in the spirit of the Brussels Declaration of 27 November 1984, a definitive solution to the question of Gibraltar, in the light of the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and applicable principles, and in the spirit of the Charter of the United Nations;

(b) Takes note of the desire of the United Kingdom to continue with the trilateral Forum for Dialogue on Gibraltar;

(c) Takes note of the position of Spain that the Forum does not exist any longer and should be replaced with a new mechanism for local cooperation in the interest of social well-being and regional economic development, in which the people of the Campo de Gibraltar and Gibraltar are represented;

(d) Takes note of efforts made by both parties to resolve current problems and to engage in a flexible and responsive form of dialogue between all relevant and appropriate parties, on an informal ad hoc basis, in order to find common solutions and make progress on issues of mutual benefit.